

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 07488 070938Z

ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0702

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 07488

EXDIS

USEEC

PASS STR FOR AMBASSADOR STRAUSS

E.O. 11651: GDS

TAGS: ETRD

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR STRAUSS VISIT

1. I MET LATE JULY 6 WITH COMMISSION VICE PRESIDENT
HAFERKAMP TO GET HIS SENSE OF FORTHCOMING BILATERAL MTN
TALKS AND TO CONVEY MY PERSONAL APPRECIATION OF IMPORTANCE
OF MOVING MATTERS NEXT WEEK. HE HAD WITH HIM DIRECTOR
GENERAL FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, SIR ROY DENMAN, AND FRANZ
FROSCHMAIER, HIS CHEF DE CABINET.

2. HAVERKAMP SAID COMMISSIONERS DIRECTLY CONCERNED HAD
DISCUSSED THEIR APPROACH TO TALKS AT LUXEMBOURG JULY 5.
(NORMALLY THIS WOULD MEAN JENKINS, HAVERKAMP, GUNDELACH
AND DAVIGNON BUT I UNDERSTAND SEPARATELY THAT DAVIGNON
WAS DETAINED BY PARLIAMENTARY DUTIES AND DID NOT PARTICI-
PATE.) COMMISSION GROUP APPROVED LINE RECOMMENDED FOR
TALKS BY SMALL COMMISSION STAFF GROUP.

3. HAVERKAMP SAID HE AND OTHERS CONCERNED PREPARED EXPLORE
FULLY AND IN FORTHRIGHT FASHION ENTIRE RANGE OF TOKYO
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ROUND PROBLEMS. WHILE COMMISSION BOUND BY COMMUNITY MAN-
DATE, THEY WILLING TO LOOK FOR SOLUTIONS GOING BEYOND
MANDATE. DENMAN SAID HE WOULD BE PREPARED TO DO LIKEWISE
IN WHAT HE ASSUMES WILL BE MORE DETAILED TALKS IN WASH-
INGTON LATER. WHILE STRESSING NEED FOR STRICT CON-
FIDENTIALITY, DENMAN ALSO INDICATED THAT COMMISSION WOULD
HAVE TO REPORT TO GOVERNMENTS. HE HOPED THERE WOULD BE

NO PREMATURE LEAKS AND THAT COMMISSION WOULD BE FREE TO TAILOR SUBSTANCE AND TIMING OF ITS REPORT SO AS TO BEST ADVANCE JOINT CAUSE TO WHICH BOTH US AND COMMISSION DEDICATED.

4. HAFERKAMP SHARED MY VIEW THAT STRAUSS/COMMISSION MEETINGS SHOULD AS MINIMUM PROVIDE GUIDANCE TO DENMAN AND WOLFF GROUPS AS TO WHAT THEY WERE TO ACCOMPLISH. WHILE THEY SEEMED TO AGREE WITH MY SUGGESTION THAT NATURE OF FINAL PACKAGE MIGHT BE SKETCHED OUT, I SENSED SOME HESITATION. DENMAN STRESSED IT ESSENTIAL THAT STRAUSS LAY OUT FULLY AND CLEARLY HIS IDEAS ON TIMING WITH RESPECT TO ORDER IN WHICH MAJOR PROBLEMS SHOULD BE ATTACKED. FROSCHMAIER TALK OF OUTLINING AREAS WHERE AGREEMENT APPEARED EASY, MORE DIFFICULT AREAS, AND AREAS WHICH COULD BE LEFT ASIDE FOR NOW. IT SOUNDED LIKE SOME SORT OF LIST OF PRIORITIES.

5. HAFERKAMP SAID IN TARIFF AREA WHAT HAD TO BE DECIDED WAS WHETHER TO GO FOR AMBITIOUS FORMULA "60 PERCENT TO 70 PERCENT CUTS" WITH OVERWHELMING EXCEPTIONS OR MORE MODEST APPROACH WITH STRICTLY LIMITED EXCEPTIONS. DENMAN SAID HE HAD LIVED THROUGH TWO YEARS OF AN EXCRUCIATING EXCEPTIONS EXERCISE IN THE KENNEDY ROUND AND EVERY EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO AVOID A REOCCURRENCE.

6. HAFERKAMP SEEMED UNEASY ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF DISCUSSING CONFIDENTIAL

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AGRICULTURE IN ANY DEPTH AND APPEARS PREFER LEAVE THAT LARGELY FOR GUNDELACH'S WASHINGTON TRIP. HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT GUNDELACH WOULD BE PRESENT FOR LUNCH AND SUBSEQUENT TALKS AT RESIDENCE. (IN ADDITION, GUNDELACH HAS CONFIRMED SEPARATE MEETING WITH STRAUSS FOR 10:30 JULY 11.)

7. HAFERKAMP RAISED SAFEGUARD ISSUE, EXPRESSING SOME PERSONAL DISCOMFORT AT ACTION COMMISSION ANNOUNCED JULY 6 IN TEXTILE FIELD AND ARGUING FROM THIS IMPORTANCE OF TOKYO ROUND PRODUCING BETTER SAFEGUARD RULES AND PROCEDURES. THEY LISTENED WITHOUT COMMENT WHEN I EXPRESSED VIEW THAT ANOTHER MAJOR PROBLEM WAS SUBSIDY COUNTERVAIL AREA.

8. WE ALSO DISCUSSED RELATION OF VANIK CODEL VISIT JULY 7 TO NEXT WEEK'S TALKS. THEY WANT DO WELL BY THIS IMPORTANT CONGRESSIONAL GROUP BUT AT THE SAME TIME SAID THEY WOULD PERFORCE RESIST TEMPTATION TO UNVEIL THEIR THINKING PRIOR TO MEETING WITH STRAUSS.

9. FINALLY, PRIVATE COMMENT FROM FROSCHMAIER WAS TO EFFECT THAT US AND COMMISSION SHOULD BE CAREFUL NOT TO AROUSE "EXAGGERATED EXPECTATIONS." HINTON

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED STR FOR AMBASSADOR STRAUSS.

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